UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Public Records

We noted yesterday a lengthy article in the LA Times based on a 28-page list of demands from the feds to UC/UCLA.*

Since that unpublished document seems to have been made available to the LA Times - probably not by the feds since it contains grammatical and other errors that suggest careless drafting - the other source would seem to be someone at UC/UCLA. And if that is the case, it would also seem that a request using the California Public Records Act should make it public.

In fact, the Faculty Assn. has already made such a request.** If anyone else would like to do it, we have conveniently provided the needed information on how to make such requests below:

Filing a Public Records request at UCOP:

Accessing UC Office of the President (UCOP) Records:

Identifying records: To help us provide records promptly, please provide specific information about the records you seek including the record name, subject matter, author's name, date, office, or department that created the record.

Time deadlines: UCOP has 10 days to determine if it will disclose the requested records. A limited 14-day extension may apply. If records cannot be provided within these deadlines, we will provide an estimated delivery date, and the records will be disclosed in a reasonable period of time.

Copying fees: UCOP charges 20 cents per page as the direct cost for duplicating records. When UCOP must compile or extract electronic data or perform computer programming, it may charge its full costs.

Exemptions: UCOP will provide access to all public records upon request, unless the law provides an exemption from mandatory disclosure. Examples of exempt records may include: personnel records, investigative records, drafts, confidential legal advice, records prepared in connection with litigation, and information that may be kept confidential under other state or federal laws.

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Office of the President Public Records Office

Office of the General Counsel

UC Office of the President

1111 Franklin Street

Oakland, CA 94607-5200

Phone: (510) 287-3844

Email: pra@ucop.edu

Source: https://www.ucop.edu/uc-legal/legal-resources/information-practices/information-practices-coordinators.html

https://www.ucop.edu/uc-legal/legal-resources/information-practices/office-of-public-records-guidelines-for-access.html

Guidelines for requests are at https://www.ucop.edu/uc-legal/_files/access-privacy/guidelines_cpra.pdf

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Filing a Public Records request at UCLA:

Information Practices

The Information Practices department provides three major services to the campus community: public records request processing, subpoena processing and records management consulting services.

The Council of UC Faculty Associations

- Faculty are fighting back
- Faculty Lawsuit Demands Public Access to Trump Administration's Settlement Demands on University of California
- Coalition of UC unions condemns Trump's attacks on the UC and the California economy
- Stand up for values in the face of Trump's $300 million cut to UCLA scholars
- Faculty leaders comment on UCB Chancellor Lyon's appearance before House Committee on Education and the Workforce

Remaking the University

- Liner Note 39. Attack Theory for Education - 9/28/2025
- Liner Note 38. The University of California's Charlie Kirk Tribute Act - 9/16/2025
- Why Should We "Stand Up for the UC?" (Guest Post) - 9/1/2025

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- Chronicle of Higher Education
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Topics

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Requests for Public Records and Employee Records: Information Practices coordinates the University's response to requests for public records made under the California Public Records Act (CPRA), along with requests from current and former employees for records specifically relating to themselves pursuant to the Information Practices Act (IPA). General responsibilities of the Information Practices Team are to:

- Receive and log requests for records.
- Notify offices on campus that a request was received.
- Collect documents from custodial offices on campus and the Medical Center.
- Review collected documents for responsiveness and exempt information, and redact where warranted.
- Release documents to requesters.
- Requests may be submitted to the Information Practices Office via email at records@ucla.edu

Records Management Consulting Services: Information Practices offers consultation services to all departments for records management, such as in relation to the University records retention schedules. If you would like to discuss these services, contact Information Practices at (310) 794-8741 via email at records@ucla.edu

Source: https://compliance.ucla.edu/information-practices

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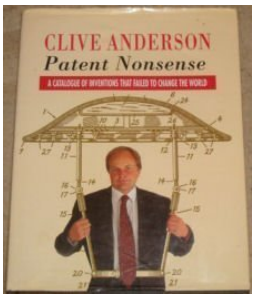
*https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2025/09/what-feds-want.html.

**https://cucfa.org/2025/09/faculty-lawsuit-demands-public-access-to-settlement-demands/.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 7:47 AM No comments:

Labels: politics, UC, UCLA

University Patents



From Inside Higher Ed: *Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick told Axios he wants the federal government to get half the dollars generated from patents that universities and their researchers develop with federal funding, the outlet reported... "The scientists get the patents, the universities get the patents and the funder of $50 billion, the U.S. government, you know what we get? Zero," Lutnick says in an interview... "I think if we fund it and they invent a patent, the United States of America taxpayer should get half the benefit," Lutnick says, adding, "if we are paying for the research, if we're paying for the lab, if it's our money, the American taxpayer's money."*

"How do we not get our money back?" he says. "That's insane."

... The Bayh-Dole Act generally gives universities the right to own patents developed with federal funding. The Commerce Department didn't return requests for comment... about how the Trump administration could legally get around that law...

Full story at https://www.insidehighered.com/news/quick-takes/2025/09/11/commerce-sec-wants-half-university-patent-money.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:

Labels: politics, public funding

Straws in the Wind - Part 103

From Inside Higher Ed: *The U.S. Department of Education plans to end discretionary grant programs for a slew of minority-serving institutions, officials announced... after Congress had already appropriated hundreds of thousands of dollars to those programs. The move stunned MSI advocates, who argue the department doesn't have the authority to nix them. The Education Department asserted that these programs amount to "discrimination" and are "unconstitutional" because they require colleges to enroll a certain percentage of students from a particular racial or ethnic background to qualify. For example, HSIs must enroll at least a quarter Hispanic students, among other requirements, to earn the federal designation.*

"Discrimination based upon race or ethnicity has no place in the United States," U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon said in the announcement. "To further our commitment to ending discrimination in all forms across federally supported programs, the Department will no longer award Minority-Serving Institution grants that discriminate by restricting eligibility to institutions that meet government-mandated racial quotas."

Seven grant programs are on the chopping block, including funds for Hispanic-serving institutions, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian–serving institutions, predominantly Black institutions, Asian American, Native American and Pacific Islander–serving institutions and

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Contributors

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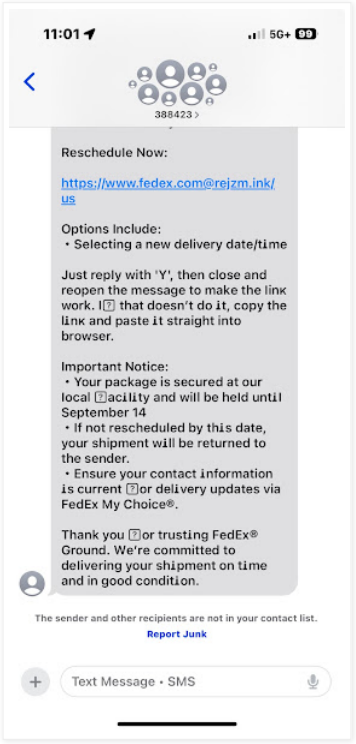
Native American–serving nontribal institutions. Historically Black colleges and universities and tribal colleges are unaffected...

Full story at https://www.insidehigher.ed.com/news/government/politics-elections/2025/09/11/education-department-moves-end-msi-programs.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:

Labels: diversity, politics, public funding

A Package Deal...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Reschedule Now:
https://www.fedex.com@rejzm.ink/us
Options Include:
• Selecting a new delivery date/time
Just reply with 'Y', then close and reopen the message to make the link work. If that doesn't do it, copy the link and paste it straight into browser.
Important Notice:
• Your package is secured at our local facility and will be held until September 14
• If not rescheduled by this date, your shipment will be returned to the sender.
• Ensure your contact information is current for delivery updates via FedEx My Choice®.
Thank you for trusting FedEx® Ground. We're committed to delivering your shipment on time and in good condition.
The sender and other recipients are not in your contact list.
Report Junk
Text Message • SMS

...that you should delete.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:10 AM No comments:

Labels: email fraud

Monday, September 15, 2025

What the Feds Want

Los Angeles Times
Justice Dept. demands a shift in UCLA values
Hikers face California's peaks, then the storms that rule them
Going its own way on COVID vaccines
How will Kirk's slaying alter security?
Edison's rate hike of nearly 10% might be just the beginning
Gold rush seen in these California desert towns

The LA Times today carries a lengthy article detailing what the Trump administration is asking from UC/UCLA. It appears to be based on a 28-page letter from the feds which the Times either has or has seen. According to the Times, there are grammatical errors and other mistakes, suggesting the letter was hastily drafted. Given that revelation, it is likely that someone at UC or UCLA leaked the letter - which is reproduced in the Times - rather than someone at the feds. Excerpts:

...The Department of Justice's August demands reach into numerous aspects of campus life and call for the university to make public declarations that it has agreed to significant elements of President Trump's vision of higher education. In exchange, the government will release roughly half a billion dollars in suspended research grants from the National Institutes of Health and Department of Energy to UCLA.

The letter has launched ongoing negotiations between University of California leaders and the Department of Justice. UC has not publicly agreed to the stipulations — which have been broadly summarized in reporting from The Times. In statements, leaders have scoffed at the exorbitant fine. Privately, they've said many other requests would violate UCLA's mission and values.

The more than 7,300-word proposal outlines a three-year agreement that calls on UCLA to:

- *Make five years of payments — $200 million annually — and set up a $172 million fund for people with claims of civil rights violations.*
- *Ensure foreign students who are "anti-Western" will not be admitted.*

- *Pay for all costs of the settlement, including the fee for an outside monitor.*
- *Annually release demographic data for hires as well as students who have applied or have been admitted, broken down by "race, color, grade point average, and performance on standardized tests."*
- *Make a public statement declaring that transgender people's identities are no longer recognized.*
- *End gender-affirming care for minors at medical facilities.*
- *Give the government access to "all UCLA staff, employees, facilities, documents, and data related to the agreement" not protected by attorney-client privilege.*

Gov. Gavin Newson has called the demands "extortion" and said California will "stand tall and push back." UC President James B. Milliken said the funding cuts represent "one of the gravest threats in UC's 157-year history." ...

Full story at https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-09-15/trump-doj-proposed-settlement-demand-letter-ucla-university-of-california.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:40 PM No comments:

Labels: admissions, diversity, health care, politics, UC, UCLA

Another Regents Closed Door Meeting Last Week

The special group of ten Regents who seem to be directly involved in negotiations with the feds met last week (Sept. 9) for a closed door meeting.

But it's closed door. So that's all we know.

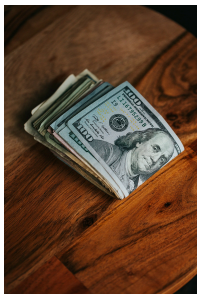
The ten: Anguiano, Cohen, Hernandez, Leib, Matosantos, Milliken, Reilly, Robinson, Sarris, and Sures.

Source: https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/sept25/meeting-notice-september-9-2025.pdf.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:35 AM No comments:

Labels: politics, UC Regents

Some Extra Cash



The latest cash report from the state controller for the first two months of fiscal year 2025-26 shows about $2 billion more has come into the general fund than was forecast when the budget was enacted.

Much of it is coming from the personal income tax.

One might note that such extra cash might tide UC/UCLA over while frozen grants are being litigated.

Just an observation...

The cash report through August is at:

https://sco.ca.gov/Files-ARD/CASH/August2025StatementofGeneralFundCashReceiptsandDisbursements.pdf.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:

Labels: controller, politics, public funding, State Budget, UC, UCLA

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